Andhra Pradesh are included in RPDS. These areas correspond to 120 erstwhile blocks presently under 382 mandals.

(c) The targets and achievements on die points mentioned above at part (a) relating to Andhra Pradesh is as under:

Progress of Implementation in Andhra Pradesh under RPDS as per reports received till 15.2.1994.

		Target	Achievement
(i)	Opening of additonal FPSs.	316	362
(ii)	Issue of additional ration cards		1,33,756
(iii)	Storage capacity	—	1,15,000 (hired)
(iv)	No. of FPSs covered under doorstep delivery system	8233	8233
(v)	No. of FPS level Vigilance Committee constituted.	8233	8233
(vi)	additional items through PDS	Iodised salt, tea, sarees, pulses,	distributed textbooks, Janta soaps, dhotis.

Release of foodgrains by the State Government for PDS

634. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised the State Governments to release food-grains for PDS wherever necessary to maintain easy availability of foodgrains; and

(a) if so, whether this decision has helped in checking the steep-rise in prices of all essential commodities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Central Government makes bulk allocations of foodgrains for the Public Distribution System to State Govemments/UT Administrations from month to month taking into account the availability of stocks with the Central Government, inter se requirements of States/UTs and seasonal requirements. Internal distribution of foodgrains allocated by Central Government is a matter which falls within the administrative jurisdiction of State Governments and UT Administrations. Central Government has advised State Govemments/UT Administrations to increase the allocations made by them to areas covered under the Ravamped PDS since these areas are chronically food deficit. Release of food grains for the Public Distribution System has a moderating effect on their open market prices.

Rise of wholesale price Index

635. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the wholesale price index for essential commodities registered a sharp rise towards the end of August, 1993 by 0.5% and further rise during the months of September and October, 1993;

(b) if so, what arc the main reasons for the same; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMLUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Wholesale Price Index Numbers of essential commodities and their percentage variation during the months of August, 1993 September, 1993 and October, 1993 are shown in the

Annexure. [See Appendix 170, Annexure No. 13]

(b) The main reasons for the increase in the prices are the gap between demand and supply of pulses, failure of monsoon in some of the oil producing areas, the overall increase in consumption of sugar coupled with the estimated low production during the year 1993-94, damage to the potatoes and onions crop in their producing areas and limited production to Gram and reduced imports.

(c) The Government has been taking appropriate measures on regular basis for containing the prices of essential commodities like setting up of an Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination Committee on monitoring the prices, availability and forecasting of selected essential commodities; reduction of the stock holding limits of producers, manufacturers and dealers of oilseeds and oils by 50% intensified action again the hoarders, black marketeers and those indulging in unfair trade practices, import of palmolein and strengthening of Public Distribution System.

Welfare of women employees working in Super Bazar

636. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases of exploitation of women employees in the Super Bazar are on the increase, particularly by their male counter-parts and the suppliers;

(b) if so, what are the details of action plan initiated to combat this menace;

(c) whether Government have launched any new scheme for the welfare of women employees of the Super Bazar;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount sanctioned for the scheme; and

(e) by when this scheme is scheduled to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Super Bazar has reported that they have not received any report from female employees regarding exploitation from suppliers. There was a complaint received in May, 92 from a female employee regarding disorderly behaviour by a security staff. The concerned official was issued a show cause notice and thereafter a recordable warning was served upon him in July, 1992.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

सुपर बाजार में महिला-कर्मचारियों के साथ अभद्र व्यवहार किए जाने की शिकायतें

637. **श्रीमती चन्द्रिका अभिनन्दन जैन:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सुपर बाजार की आई०एन०ए० तथा चाणक्यपुरी स्थित शाखाओं में पुरुष कर्मचारियों द्वारा महिला बिक्री सहायक के साथ छेड़खानी तथा अभद्र व्यवहार करने की घटनाएं हुई थीं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान हुई ऐसी घटनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) दोषी पाए गए कर्मचारियों तथा शिकायतकर्ता के नाम क्या-क्या हैं तथा उक्त घटनाओं का तिथि-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) सुपर बाजार के महाप्रबंधक ने दोषी पाए गए पुरुष कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध क्या अनुशासनात्मक कार्यवाही की है;

(ङ) दोषी पाए गए पुरुष कर्मचारी तथा शिकायत करने वाली महिला-कर्मचारी इस समय कहां-कहां तैनात हैं;

(च) क्या महाप्रबंधक ने ऐसे कोई अनुदेश जारी किए हैं कि सभी महिला-कर्मचारियों को केवल कनॉट प्लेस स्थित शाखा में ही तैनात किया जाना चाहिए; और

(छ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?